the poor result of the last English School Leaving Certificate Examination. Compulsory physical training was introduced in the Junior Intermediate classes in the Arts and Science Colleges on the return after training of the candidates for appointment as Physical Instructors. A lady graduate is being trained with a view to being appointed as Physical Instructor in the Women's College; and in the meantime temporary arrangements have been made for the introduction of compulsory physical training in that College. Application has been made to the University of Madras for the affiliation of the Science College in Zoology (main) and Botany (subsidiary) in the B. A. Degree course and in the pre-registration course for candidates seeking admission to the Madras Medical College. The Indian Music Group has been opened in the Women's College from the beginning of the current academic year. Candidates for the B A. Degree examination were presented for the first time from the Women's College in 1105. In the field of vernacular education, the increase in the strength was 20,113. Primary schools contributed most of the increase. Possibly as a result of the prevailing economic conditions, the year witnessed a decline, though slight, in the number of Pulaya and Paraya pupils under instruction, but it is hoped that the set-back is only temporary. The special staff appointed in connection with the revision of pay of vernacular school teachers has almost completed its work.

Law's Delays Commissioner.

20. In my replies last year to the representations relating to civil judicial administration, I foreshadowed the appointment of an officer to investigate law's delays. In the beginning of April 1930, Rao Bahadur G. Sankara Pillai Esq., Retired Judge, High Court, was appointed Commissioner to enquire into the question of delay in the disposal of civil cases, to suggest measures for the more speedy execution of decrees and orders issued by the courts and to examine and report upon the need for the re-adjustment of the territorial jurisdiction of civil courts. Mr. G. Paramesvaran Pillai, Acting Second and Additional Sessions Judge, was appointed Assistant to the Commissioner. But, on the appointment of Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai, first as Acting Additional Head Sirkar Vakil and then on special duty in connection with the Round Table Conference, an officer of the grade of Munsiff was appointed as Secretary, instead. The Commissioner was empowered to associate with himself practising lawyers for the whole or any part of the work. The Commissioner and those associated with him in the enquiry were also authorised to visit selected courts in the State and to take the evidence of practising lawyers, judicial officers and such other persons as the Commissioner might deem necessary. The Commissioner has issued a questionnaire and collected valuable statistics and his report is expected to be ready in August 1931.

Police.

21. Towards the end of Kanni 1105, a Senior District Superintendent of Police was appointed as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Police. The force was also strengthened by the appointment of one

head constable and four constables in 1105 for the new outpost at Pangode in the Nedumangad taluk and of an Inspector and a Head Constable for the more efficient control of traffic constables from the beginning of 1106. The Government have also revised from the above date the pay of the constabulary. The pay of the lowest grade has been enhanced from Rs. 9 to Rs. 11 per mensem, and an increase of Re. 1 per mensem has been granted to the constables in the other grades.

Public Works.

22. The expenditure on the Public Works Department was higher than in any previous year. The expenditure on ordinary public works charged to revenue was Rs. 42·68 lakhs against Rs. 41·95 lakhs in 1104. An expenditure of Rs. 26·79 lakhs was incurred under communications, which thus consumed nearly 72 per cent. of the gross outlay on works and repairs under all service heads. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 16·81 lakhs was devoted to the opening of new roads and to improvements and special repairs to communications and Rs. 9·98 lakhs to the maintenance of roads, traces and canals. The total length of roads newly opened and of those improved were 69 miles and 412 miles against 48 miles and 282 miles, respectively, in 1104 The total length of communications maintained during 1105 was 4,893 miles against 4,852 miles in 1104. The Neriamangalam-Pallivasal road, which is the most important road under construction, is almost completed and is expected to be thrown open to traffic soon. The Neendakara bridge, treated as a capital undertaking, was opened for traffic on the 32nd Edavom 1105 by Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent and named the Setu Lakshmi Bhayi Bridge. The bridge has cost on the whole Rs. 5·17 lakhs, of which Rs. 1·46 lakhs was spent in 1105. The expenditure on buildings fell from Rs. 7·38 lakhs in 1104 to Rs. 6·94 lakhs in 1105, of which a sum of Rs. 5·20 lakhs was spent on construction and Rs. 1·74 lakhs on annual repairs and maintenance. Under capital expenditure not charged to revenue, a sum of Rs. 8·75 lakhs was spent on the Trivandrum Water Supply Scheme, Rs. 1·17 lakhs on the Trivandrum Electric Supply Scheme, Rs. 0.53 lakh on the Trivandrum Telephone Scheme, besides the Rs. 1·46 lakhs on the Neendakara Bridge. Inclusive of the capital outlay and the expenditure on contribution works, the total amount spent by the Public Works Department during 1105 was Rs. 58·57 lakhs. Proposals have been made by the Chief Engineer for investigating a complete drainage scheme for the Trivandrum town.

Trivandrum Water Works.

23. The total expenditure on the Trivandrum Water Supply Scheme till the end of 1105 amounted to Rs. 17·83 lakhs, of which Rs. 8·75 lakhs was spent during the year. Satisfactory progress has been made in the head works at Aruvikkara. The bridge across the Karamanai river has been completed, the foundation trench for the dam has been partly finished and pneumatic drilling of the bed rock for purposes of grouting with cement to seal up the seams and fissures is being carried out. The trenching work on the main supply line has also made considerable progress. Pipe-laying and jointing were com-